

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 488

By Boyd

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Charles Leston
Bradshaw of Lebanon.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Charles Leston Bradshaw, a renowned mathematician and computation professional who contributed significantly to the development of the ballistic missile and space flight; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bradshaw began his illustrious career in mathematics as an assistant professor at Tennessee Polytechnic Institute before serving as chief of the computation unit of the aeroballistics laboratory of the U.S. Army's Guided Missile Development Division headed by Dr. Werner von Braun; and

WHEREAS, he later joined Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a mathematician in the mathematics panel, but returned to the space program in 1956 as a branch chief in the computation laboratory of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency; and

WHEREAS, when Dr. von Braun's development team transferred to NASA to form the Marshall Space Flight Center in 1960, Mr. Bradshaw became deputy director of the computations laboratory and served in that position for ten years; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, he became director of the computer center at Vanderbilt University and remained in that position until retiring in 1988; and

WHEREAS, a gifted professional in his field, Mr. Bradshaw became a member of the Association of Computing Machinery in 1954, received its Distinguished Service Award in 1988, and was named a Fellow of the organization in 1994; and

WHEREAS, he was also the author of four books, including *Post Your Peg High* and *Rockets, Reactors and Computers Define the 20th Century*; and

WHEREAS, a native of Knox County, Mr. Bradshaw received an Associate of Arts degree from Tennessee Wesleyan College before earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Tennessee Technological University and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he proudly served his country during World War II as a member of America's greatest generation; U.S. Navy Lieutenant Bradshaw served in the Pacific theatre of operations aboard APA-217, which led initial assault waves into Okinawa and carried the first occupation troops to mainland Japan; and

WHEREAS, a devoted servant of his faith and community, Mr. Bradshaw was a longtime member of First Presbyterian Church in Lebanon, which he served as elder; and

WHEREAS, Charles Bradshaw is survived by his wife, Loyce Knowles Bradshaw; daughter, Carole Bradshaw (Jim) Choomack; sons, Bob (So Ae) Bradshaw and Alan (Tracy) Bradshaw; stepchildren, Aimee (Jim) Maytag, Leann (Andy) McGinnis, Sammye (Vince) Pokryfki, and Jay Croft; grandchildren, Scott Pierce, Kelly Pierce, Melanie Bradshaw Farrell, Stephanie Bradshaw Cummings, Justin Bradshaw, and Sophie Bradshaw; step-grandchildren, Kristen Maytag, Sydney Johnson, Jordan Manelick, and Nathan Pokryfki; and eight great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, A.C. and Nola McBee Bradshaw; his wife, Bernice Scott Bradshaw; his brother, Earl Bradshaw; and two step-grandsons, Dylan Johnson and Sawyer Webb; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should remember the bountiful life of this exceptional human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Charles Leston Bradshaw, reflecting fondly upon his indelible legacy of professional achievement as a mathematician and scientist and his many contributions to America's preeminence in national defense and space flight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Bradshaw.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.